

PATENT  
Docket No. 150.00930102IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Eugene P. Marsh )  
Serial No.: 09/812,157 )  
Confirmation No.: 2941 )  
Filed: March 19, 2001 )  
For: METHODS FOR PATTERNING METAL-LAYERS FOR USE WITH FORMING  
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES )

Group Art Unit: 2823  
Examiner: Julio Maldonado

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12 April 2004  
Date

Signature: [Signature]  
Name: Julio Maldonado

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For: METHODS FOR PATTERNING METAL-LAYERS FOR USE WITH FORMING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES	)		

Comments on Statement for Reasons of Allowance

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's "Statement of Reason for Allowance" (the Statement) provided with the Notice of Allowance of January 12, 2004 in the above-identified application, Applicant submits the following comments.

Date of Prior Communication

Applicant notes that the Notice of Allowability is in response to "amendments filed on 10/31/2003." The "Detailed Action" section of the Communication identifies this same date. Applicant's response submitted prior to the Notice of Allowance, however, was dated Sept 11, 2003.

Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The Statement characterizing Summerfelt appears to coincide with the elements of less than all the allowed independent claims. That is, other allowed independent (and dependent) claims have different elements and/or combinations of elements than those identified in the Statement. For example, claim 106 recites a conductive metal layer that is not limited to platinum. Moreover, some claims recite language like that of claim 102, e.g., that "portions of

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*Comment of Statement for Reasons of Allowance*

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Serial No.: 09/812,157

Allowed: January 12, 2004

Title: METHODS FOR PATTERNING METAL LAYERS FOR USE WITH FORMING SEMICONDUCTOR LAYERS

the material comprising platinum on the patterned titanium nitride adhesion layer are maintained in a configuration substantially the same as that of the adhesion layer." For these and other reasons, each claim is assumed to have been allowed based upon its own recitations.

Summary

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for  
Eugene P. Marsh

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By: SARA E. OLSON

Name: SARA E. OLSON